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General Assembly
Sixty-second session
Agenda items 14, 98 (x) and 108

General and complete disarmament

Prevention of armed conflict: implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Letter dated 20 September 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to my letter of 18 September 2007, I have the honour to transmit herewith the joint statement of the European Union member States and the European Commission, Switzerland, the United States of America and Canada on the situation in northern Mali (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the joint statement circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 14, 98 (x) and 108 and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ami **Diallo**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 20 September 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the Republic of Mali, in its capacity as President of the European Union, presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Mali and has the honour to transmit herewith the joint statement of the European Union member States and the European Commission, Switzerland, the United States and Canada on the situation in northern Mali (see enclosure).

Enclosure

Statement of the European Union, Switzerland, the United States and Canada on the situation in northern Mali

Bamako, 6 September 2007

The European Union member States and the European Commission, Switzerland, the United States and Canada, which are represented in Bamako, express their deep concern over the deteriorating situation in northern Mali. They consider the use of violence to represent a threat to the stability and security of the regions of northern Mali.

They resolutely condemn the taking of hostages and use of landmines, which have already claimed a number of victims and which expose the civilian populations of the region to increased risks.

The European Union member States and the European Commission, Switzerland, the United States and Canada reaffirm their support for the efforts made by the Government of Mali and the 23 May Democratic Alliance for Change in safeguarding peace, while respecting the territorial integrity and national unity of Mali.

They reiterate their confidence in the process initiated by the Algiers Agreement of July 2006 and the Kidal Forum of March 2007 and their willingness to continue and strengthen their cooperation for the benefit of all the people of Mali.